

FY17 Operations Update for DTSC

Groundwater and Vapor Intrusion

- **Frontier Fertilizer:** EPA and DTSC are working diligently on the transfer of the Frontier Fertilizer Site from EPA to DTSC by September 30th, 2017. This transfer represents the completion of EPA's investigation and cleanup work at the site over the last twenty-two years.
- **West Oakland, AMCO Site:** EPA has completed construction of the thermal treatment system. Design and construction of the treatment system has cost over \$ 1 million, and we expect that the treatment system will need to be operated for about six to nine months in order to remove the high concentrations of solvents in the shallow soil zone and groundwater.
- EPA will propose the **Orange County North Basin** groundwater contamination site to the NPL in the next rulemaking, currently slated for September 2017. Listing this area-wide groundwater contamination will allow us to work with stakeholders to address contamination that is impacting drinking water wells in the area and threatens other nearby wells.
- **Casmalia:** A Proposed Plan will be issued in FY17. The preferred alternative includes RCRA-equivalent capping (NE portions of site), localized hot spot removal, NAPL source removal, monitored natural attenuation, institutional controls, surface water management, a Technical Impracticability waiver zone, and ecological habitat mitigation.
- **Montrose OU3 DNAPL:** Record of Decision planned for FY17. The preferred alternative will consist of Electrical Resistance Heating (ERH) in a focused treatment area. This alternative is premised on the application of ERH within a focused area of the Site where mobile DNAPL is known to be present. The remedy also includes soil vapor extraction, groundwater institutional controls and land use controls.
- **Selma:** In 2016, EPA issued a Removal Action to install treatment systems on two downgradient residential wells with hexavalent chromium levels substantially above the California MCL (up to 86 ppb Cr+6). Reverse osmosis systems were installed in December 2016 and EPA's review of recent sampling results indicates that hexavalent chromium concentrations are now well below (0.16 to 1.8 ppb) the State of California MCL for hexavalent chromium (10 µg/L). RI activities to determine the leading edge of the groundwater contamination plume are ongoing.
- **San Gabriel Valley (Baldwin Park):** Following several years of difficult and complex issue negotiations (e.g., insurance and indemnity), it appears that the parties have reached a satisfactory resolution of those issues and that the Project Agreement can be finalized and signed, subject to final approval by the parties' respective managements and boards. Watermaster will be filing papers to seek approval of the Project Agreement from the Los Angeles Superior Court and that hearing is scheduled for late April. The current Project Agreement, which commenced in May 2002, is in effect until May 7 of this year.
- **Omega Site:** On March 31st, EPA received court approval of the settlement with PRPs at the Omega Site. Under that agreement, the PRPs will be required to conduct groundwater cleanup at the Omega Site valued at over \$70 million, which will prevent further degradation of groundwater resources and remove substantial contamination mass at the Site.
- EPA will continue vapor intrusion investigations in the **San Fernando Valley** at the **Glendale OU**, in the **San Gabriel Valley** at the **South El Monte OU**, **Area 3 OU**, **El Monte OU**, and **PVOU**, the former **Del Amo** plant property, **Aerojet**, and **SAIA** and **Jervis Webb**.
- **Central Basin:** We will finalize site investigations, and complete a conceptual site model using 3D visualization tools for sites in the Central Basin of Los Angeles County, particularly in the NE I-710

corridor and Huntington Park area. We will use these results to identify primary NPL candidates, and integrate model information into a Central Basin-wide 3D visualization.

Mine Sites

- **Sulphur Bank Mercury Mine:** We are planning to issue a Proposed Plan for the Mine Property operable unit, proposing cleanup actions that will greatly reduce, and possibly eliminate, the release of acidic mercury contaminated water from the mine impoundment into Clear Lake. Clear Lake is used for drinking water for area communities, supports substantial water based recreation, and several tribal communities are located around the Lake, with one tribal community located adjacent to the Sulphur Bank mine property. The State of California has issued a fish advisory for Clear Lake because of elevated mercury concentrations in Clear Lake fish populations.
- **Lava Cap Mine:** With significant data collection over the 2016-2017 Winter season, we hope to move into Remedial Design during the rest of FY17 and into FY18. Semi-annual team meetings and monthly calls between the State and EPA are ongoing.
- **Argonaut Mine:** With the listing of this site in September 2016, EPA has begun the Remedial Investigation to address soil and surface water contamination that poses a direct exposure threat. EPA is working closely with DTSC to coordinate activities between the Dam retrofit project and the NPL site Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study.
- **New Idria Mine Site:** EPA is planning to issue an Administrative Order on Consent with the potentially responsible party which will result in the initiation of a Remedial Investigation and Feasibility Study to address legacy mercury contamination.
- **MINESHAFT:** Working with our DTSC partners, in FY17 we will complete the first phase of evaluating our priority list of 42,000 California mines using two separate ranking algorithms and comparing the results with our collective in-house expertise to validate the model.

Federal Facilities

- **Edwards Air Force Base:** Two formal disputes between the Air Force and EPA are currently being negotiated for resolution, including one at the Senior Executive Committee (SEC) level regarding the use of Federal or State toxicity numbers. The State is developing a toxicity hierarchy regulation to be proposed to EPA as a programmatic ARAR for site decisions. The impact of this proposed regulation will be discussed at a scheduled SEC meeting on April 26.
- **Hunters Point:** The transfers of portions of the Hunters Point Naval Shipyard for redevelopment have been delayed at least a year due to falsification of radiation data by Navy contractor, Tetra Tech EC. The Navy, under EPA oversight, is addressing this concern through data evaluation, new re-sampling, and, if necessary, new cleanup.
- **McClellan Air Force Base:** The McClellan Privatization Group 2 Action Sites Proposed Plan presentation will take place on April 20th at the North Highlands Community Center, during the comment period from April 10th to May 10th. The EPA technical and legal team will work together to respond to any public comments and expects the Record of Decision (ROD) to be issued in the Fall of 2017.
- **Yosemite Slough:** EPA will complete two administrative consent orders in FY17: one with private parties and one with public parties in support of removal design to ultimately restore the ecosystem and protect public health in this environmental justice neighborhood.

Miscellaneous

- **State Superfund Contracts:** In FY 17, we will complete our work with DTSC to revamp and update our collective management of State Superfund Contracts (SSC) and related work using Lean Six Sigma as a tool to improve effectiveness and efficiency.
- **US/Mexico Border:** In conjunction with quarterly Arizona-Sonora and semi-annual California-Baja California task force meetings, we will continue the equipment exchange and training efforts.

Lookahead

- **United Heckathorn:** Record of Decision in FY18.
- **Casmalia:** Record of Decision in FY18.
- **Sulphur Bank Mercury Mine:** Record of Decision in FY18. RD/RA will begin in FY19.